

In the Claims:

Claims 1-54 (Cancelled)

~~1~~ 55. (Currently Amended) An isolated, recombinant polypeptide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of

- (a) the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (b) an immunogenic fragment of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the immunogenic fragment isolated polypeptide, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell mediated immune response that recognizes the to-a polypeptide consisting of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~2~~ 56. (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 55, wherein the polypeptide is according to (a).

~~3~~ 57. (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 56, wherein the polypeptide is according to (b).

~~4~~ 58. (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 55, wherein the immunogenic fragment of (b) comprises at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; wherein the immunogenic fragment, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell mediated immune response that recognizes the polypeptide SEQ ID NO:2.

~~5~~ 59. (Currently amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 55, wherein the isolated, recombinant polypeptide consists of SEQ ID NO:2.

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Currently Amended): An immunogenic composition comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of Claim 58 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

62. (Cancelled)

71. (Previously Presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, further comprising an adjuvant.

86. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 68, wherein the adjuvant is comprises a TH-1 type adjuvant.

99. (Previously Presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 64, wherein the TH-1 type adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of 3D-MPL and QS21.

10. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, wherein the carrier is comprises an oil-in-water emulsion.

11. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, wherein the carrier is comprises an aluminum salt.

12. (Currently Amended): A fusion protein comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 57 and a polypeptide selected to:

- (a) provide T-helper epitopes;
- (b) facilitate purification from a recombinant expression system; or
- (c) stabilize the isolated, recombinant polypeptide during recombinant expression.

13. (New): An isolated polypeptide consisting of SEQ ID NO:2.